

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05836 161912Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /025 W
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R 161833Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3191
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 5836

DEPT FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN
USCINCSO FOR J-2 AND PAO
PANCANAL FOR IO

FOLG SENT ACTION PRIORITY USINFO WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC
AUG 16 FROM USIS/PANAMA RPTD YOUR INFO

QUOTE
UNCLAS

SECSTATE FOR ARA/PAF & PAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

MEDIA REACTION

1-PANAMA CITY.--TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: TREATY COVERAGE MODERATE
AUG. 16 MORNINGS. THREE OF FOUR PAPERS FRONT PAGE WIRE
SERVICE REPORTS AND PHOTOS OF CARTER-KISSINGER MEETING. STAR
AND HERALD HEADS PAGE ONE AP WASHINGTON ITEM, "GERALD FORD'S
SUPPORT FOR NEW PC TREATY LIKELY, AIDE SAYS; KISSINGER
MAY TESTIFY." ESTRELLA CARRIES SIMILAR AP ARTICLE, HEADED,
"CARTER CONSULTS WITH KISSINGER; EX-SECRETARY OF STATE
EXPECTED TO SUPPORT TREATY."

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2-SEMI-INDEPENDENT LA ESTRELLA CARRIES FOUR OTHER TREATY-
RELATED STORIES ON FRONT PAGE, INCLUDING TWO AP WASHINGTON
ITEMS HEADED, "BUNKER AND LINOWITZ DEFEND CANAL AGREEMENT,"
AND "CARTER ASKS SUPPORT FOR RATIFICATION OF NEW TREATY."
LOCAL ITEMS INCLUDE PAN CANAL FACT SHEET ON TREATY PROVISIONS AND
ARTICLE HEADED, "EDITING OF NEW TREATY COULD BE COMPLETED THIS
WEEK."

3-PRO-GOP MATUTINO HEADS FRONT PAGE EFE WASHINGTON STORY BASED ON NEWSWEEK TORRIJOS INTERVIEW, "TORRIJOS: THE FUNDAMENTAL POINT OF TREATY IS THAT WE DID NOT HAVE TO LOSE 50,000 YOUNG PEOPLE IN A WAR."

4-PRO-GOP CRITICA EDIT RESTATES PROCESS OF TREATY RATIFICATION "IN ORDER TO DISPELL NATURAL HESITATIONS WHICH FRIGHTEN COMMON CITIZEN (ABOUT) STEPS WHICH MUST BE TAKEN TO MAKE TREATY WHICH IS NOT IDEAL, BUT WHICH IS THE BEST WHICH WE HAVE EVER BEEN ABLE TO ACHIEVE WITH THE US..."

5-MATUTINO EDIT CAUTIONS THAT MUCH WORK REMAINS BEFORE TREATY CAN GO INTO EFFECT, ESPECIALLY IN THE SENATE, BUT EXPRESSES OPTIMISM THAT SENATE WILL RATIFY TREATY: "INTELLIGENCE OF ITS LEADERS AND SUBTLE DISCERNMENT OF GROUPS WHICH MAKE UP SENATE WILL LEAD THEM TO CONCLUSION THAT PANAMANIAN CAUSE MUST BE VERY JUST WHEN IT IS ABLE TO PENETRATE LEGENDARY IMPASSIVENESS OF AN ELLSWORTH BUNKER, INFLUENCE DECISION OF A SOL LINOWITZ AND MOTIVATE DECISION OF PRESIDENT JAMES CARTER SO THAT IN UNPRECEDENTED DYNAMIC TRIO, THEY HAVE THROWN THEMSELVES INTO DEFENSE OF TREATY WHICH HAS BEEN JUSTLY CALLED BY A LIMA NEWSPAPER, "A TRIUMPH OF UNDERSTANDING."

6-MATUTINO BELIEVES U.S. SECURITY AND MILITARY INTERESTS HAVE BEEN COVERED BY TREATY, AND, "WHAT REMAINS, THEREFORE, IS POLITICAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DECISION, WHICH IS WHAT IS AWAITED FROM U.S. LEGISLATURE, WHICH BESIDES BEING IMPORTANT FOR REASONS OF THE LAW, IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT CARRIED THE VOICE OF THE GREAT POPULAR BLOCS OF THE NATION, WITHOUT WHOSE DECISION NOTHING GREAT CAN BE ACCEPTED, REJECTED OR PRODUCED, WITHIN OUR DEMOCRATIC REGIMES."

7-MATUTINO COLUMN MOYOLANDIA CAUTIONS PANAMANIAN TO BE CAREFUL OF TRANSLATION OF TREATY: "INTERPRETATION OF TEXTS HAS ALWAYS WORKED AGAINST US, SO MUCH SO THAT UP TO NOW THE ENGLISH TEXT PREVAILED OVER SPANISH. WHICH MEANS THAT THEIR INTERPRETATION PREVAILED OVER OURS, AND THAT WAY, IF THEY WANTED TO SAY TWO PLUS TWO EQUALS FIVE, NO OTHER RESULT WAS VALID." MOYOLANDIA CONCLUDES, "PRUDENCE IS THEREFORE INDICATED, WHICH IS WHAT THE COMMON PANAMANIAN IS DOING."

8-TODMAN TRIP: AFTERNOONER AUGUST 15 LA REPUBLICA COLUMN INSTANTE INTERNACIONAL SAYS "IT APPEARS THE OLIVE BRANCH IS BEING EXTENDED FROM THE NORTH TO THE SOUTHERN GOVERNMENTS (CHILE, URUGUAY AND PARAGUAY), AND THE BEARER OF THAT BRANCH IS ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN ... MR. TODMAN IS A BRILLIANT DIPLOMAT, CAPABLE OF SPEAKING WITHOUT COMPROMISING HIMSELF BUT AT SAME TIME SOFTENING RESENTMENTS, RIGHTING WRONGS AND

EXTENDING BRIDGES OF UNDERSTANDING AND ALSO OF APPEASEMENT.
THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT HE IS DOING ON THIS MISSION TO THE
SOUTHERN PART OF THE CONTINENT." ITEM
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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